

# The Righteous Rule of God

Acts 17:24-31

## Introduction:

- A. God is “Lord (ruler) of heaven and earth” (v. 24).
  - 1. Has right by reason of creation (v. 24)
  - 2. Has right by reason of sustaining (v. 28).
  - 3. Has right by reason of destiny (v. 31).
- B. God is ruler over His creation in 3 areas:

## Discussion:

### I. God Rules over His Universe.

- A. The Lord of the physical world (Ps. 104:1-26).
- B. The Lord of the political world (Dan. 4:17, 25, 32; Jer. 27:5; Isa. 10:5-7; John 19:10,11).
- C. The Lord of the spiritual world (cf. Lk. 10:17-20; Heb. 1:6)

### II. God Rules over His Church (Eph. 1:19-23).

- A. The Lord of its structure.
  - 1. Membership (Acts 2:47).
  - 2. Organization (Eph. 4:11, 12).
- B. The Lord of its activities.(cf. Col 3:17).
  - 1. Worship.
  - 2. Work.
- C. The Lord of its leadership (1 Pet. 5:1-4)
- D. The Lord of its destiny (1 Cor. 15:24; Rev. 21:1-3)

### III. God Rules over His Rules.

- A. He has the right to make the rules (Jas. 4:11, 12).
- B. He has the right to change the rules (Heb. 7:12).
- C. He as the right to except the rules:
  - 1. Exceptions to general natural laws (Miracles, Enoch, Elijah - Heb. 9:27).
  - 2. Exceptions to general spiritual laws.
    - a. Marriage for life (Rom. 7:1-4) — exception (Matt. 19:9).
    - b. Priest handling the dead — exception (Lev. 21:1-3).
- D. He alone has the right to make, change or except. (Jas. 4:12).
  - 1. Revealed exception vs unrevealed exceptions (Deut. 29:29).
  - 2. If God want's to make exceptions to revelation — fine, but not I.

## Conclusion:

- A. God wants to be ruler of your life.
- B. God will rule your destiny.